

SETH LOW HELPS LABOR AND THE CRETAN REFUGEES.

His Task as Strike Umpire Will Be One of Great Delicacy.

A FIGHT TO A FINISH.

Masters Are Bound to Break the Hold of the Board of Walking Delegates.

NON-UNION MEN PUT AT WORK.

It Is Believed That Labor Leaders Must Now Order Strikes or Else Give Up the Point They Have Been Trying to Make.

PRESIDENT SETH LOW has taken a new and vast burden upon his shoulders.

For a brief part of yesterday the labor situation, which has been for a week overshadowed with the promise of deadly war, seemed to wear a complexion of peace. But there is no peace, and will be none unless Seth Low shall succeed in making it.

The midnight meeting at the See House, in Lafayette place, Wednesday night, between Bishop Potter's Board of Mediation and representatives of the warring plumbers and steamfitters bore praiseworthy fruit in the small hours of yesterday morning, when President Low was chosen umpire to decide which division was entitled to do the thermostat work.

It seemed to the short-sighted that with this action the mantle of peace had fallen over the warring lot of workmen and bosses. But the wise knew better. They knew that though, for the look of the thing, none of the leaders would decline arbitration, they were still plotting war. They also knew that President Low would bring all the forces of peace and good will to bear, in order that the work on the Columbia buildings might go on.

But they knew that back of all that was the life and death struggle which is absolutely bound to take place, between the United Building Trades and the Walking Delegates' Board.

That struggle has been planned with masterly care, and both sides are ready for it. The talk of arbitration, and the appointment of so skillful and broadminded an arbiter did not cause the slightest relaxation on the part of the Mason Builders in their work of organizing the other Masters' associations for the job of trouncing the Delegates' Board.

They announced yesterday they had secured promises from the Iron League, the Master Steamfitters, the Electrical Contractors and the Master Plumbers' Association to stand together against the Board of Delegates and fight the thing to a finish.

One of the Mason Builders said: "The Board of Delegates must go. The fight may last a day, a month, or a year. It has got to be settled once for all, whether the Delegates' organization is to hold in its hands the power to turn all the working men in New York out of their jobs, when they have nothing to complain of, to serve the purposes of the delegates."

Within two hours word went forth that no firms of Master Steamfitters had put non-union men at work in their shops, in spite of the picket-guard which the locked-out men had established at the door. These were Blake & Williams and Evans & Alvall.

It was said in the afternoon that union men would be put to work where they were needed on Monday next, less the old men signed the new agreement, and deserted the Walking Delegates' organization.

Master Steamfitter Morris, of Johnson & Co., said: "The settlement of the strike the Columbia buildings will not settle disagreement with our men. Not by means."

It is plain the war is on in deadly earnest, no matter what the outcome may be at the pacific gatherings at the See House. The delegates must order a general strike, if the hiring of non-union men goes on, else they lay down their hands. The Walking Delegates are as thoroughly convinced of this as are the Masters' Association. Delegate Nugent, of the Enter-Association of Steamfitters, said: "We mean to have either the State Board of Mediation or Bishop Potter's council arbitrate our difficulties. We are in a strong and perfectly able to conduct our affairs. We do not believe there is to be any general strike, and we can adjust matters with our employers without any help."

President Low appreciates fully the magnitude of the job he has on hand. He said yesterday last night: "I should, under ordinary circumstances, be perfectly willing to speak about this, but it is all so sadly at sea now, any public expression might serve only to the complexity of it."



Seth Low, Strike Umpire and Friend of Cretan Refugees.

THE man of the day in Greater New York is, beyond question, Seth Low, president of Columbia University, and, since 2 a. m., yesterday, chosen arbiter between capital and labor. In addition he set about raising money for the Cretan refugees. The economic question President Low has been called on to decide is one of great technical fineness. Even the artisans themselves admit its surpassing difficulty, and on its settlement hangs, perhaps, a labor war involving thousands of workmen and millions of dollars.

The two interests in which Mr. Low, in a single day, took leadership, are remote from one another, but they illustrate perfectly the marvelous versatility which distinguishes the man. His life history shows at every stage a passion and a faculty for mastering problems. Whatever his vital bearing upon human affairs, he has made his field of study. His school at the Brooklyn Polytechnic and Columbia College was like everything in his subsequent career—thorough. Involvement in him, and nourished by his surroundings during early life, is a strong sense of social and civic duty. After mastering his father's business he took up the Brooklyn charities and applied to it advanced business principles.

He went into politics at the bottom of the ladder—as a ward worker—and studied deep, and hard at the problems he found there. In 1882 he was made Mayor of Brooklyn, under regular laws, which concentrated enormous power in his executive. He cleared the skirts of the municipality of scandals and retired from office, having vindicated the idea he stood for. Then he accepted the presidency of Columbia, one of the oldest and richest institutions of the continent. The growth and new dignity the university has attained since he succeeded to the chair of Dr. Barnard tell of his life. In person he is sturdy, in conversation a wizard, in dress a New Yorker, and in manners a Chesterfield. He was born to wealth, and has used the boon wisely and well. He is an American, of type to be inflated. He has an excellent record as a labor arbitrator, having adjusted satisfactorily some grave questions between employers and employees.

ment to the public yesterday, in which they said: "We are sure the reason the Master Steamfitters' Association has adopted the drastic measure of locking us out is so that they might so cripple us that we would not be able to enforce our demands on the 1st day of August, 1897, regarding a proposed new agreement. The employers have repeatedly violated the agreement of 1895. We have brought this to their notice, and have never received a satisfactory answer—merely receiving a promise that it would not occur again."

In regard to the thermostat work, which it is claimed is the cause of this trouble, we desire to say that the plumbers and gasfitters, through their respective unions, work at unfair advantage of us by forcing four of the Johnson & Co. thermostat workers into their organization. Our claim to this work is based upon the following facts:

The work is drawn up in the Master Plumbers' specifications, and is part and parcel of the steam heating plant, for which the steamfitters in charge have always been held responsible. The steam pumps, which create the pressure, are under the supervision of the plumbers in charge of the steam fitting and connected under his direction. The thermostat pipes, which control the valves in the radiators, are part and parcel of the steamfitters' work.

The statement concludes by saying the steamfitters never claimed they were entitled to do the lead connections of the thermostats, but that, as they came ready to be placed in position, there was no necessity for plumbers' work.

The Arbitration Committee of the United Building Trades held a secret meeting at the Building Trades Club last night. The State Board of Arbitration has taken the permanent headquarters of the Murray Hill Hotel. They are much disgruntled at the interference of Bishop Potter and his committee, and think they will ultimately be called on to act.

Averill-Bradley Musicals.
The Messrs. Perry Averill and Orton Bradley gave one of a series of musicals yesterday afternoon at their apartments, No. 220 Central Park South. The artists who assisted in the musical portion were Miss Carlisle Schenck, high soprano; Miss Elizabeth Swift, light soprano; Mrs. Seering, contralto; Dr. Crosby Whitman, baritone, and Mr. John C. Perry, pianist. Little Kate Bradway, six years old, a pupil of Mr. Bradley, made a big hit by playing several difficult selections on the piano.

Error in a Firm's Address.
In the report of the death and identification of E. H. Burton, published Wednesday, the address of the National Registry Company was erroneously given as No. 126 Liberty street, instead of No. 45 Pine street. It was by a tag issued by that company that Burton was identified.

Rouses the Chamber of Commerce to Sympathy with Greece.

COMMITTEE OF 25 NAMED.

In the List Are Enough Millionaires to Raise All the Money Needed.

PATRIOTIC SPEECH APPLAUDED.

Columbia's President Says, Though Our Flag Has Not Been Seen in Crete for Many Years, Our Help Will Be Welcome.

THE Chamber of Commerce yesterday appointed a committee of Twenty-five, including many of the most prominent citizens of New York, to raise funds to assist Greece in caring for her Cretan refugees. The suggestion was made by President Seth Low, of Columbia College, who attended the meeting expressly to introduce the scheme.

He said it was hard to understand the righteousness of a condition which made it necessary for the Christian powers to shell the Christians of Crete, and argued that free America should help share the burdens of Greece to the extent of contributing to the care of the Cretan refugees.

"I submit," said Mr. Low, "that the appeal of such a situation to our American generosity is one that ought to be heeded. I confidently expect that the Chamber of Commerce will take the steps that are necessary to give this appeal force and effect, for the Chamber of Commerce has already shown itself ready to honor itself by grandly answering every such call."

"When the blockade of Crete by the powers was announced the other day, it was noted as a matter of moment that no vessels carrying the American flag had made a Cretan port for many years."

Mr. Low expressed regret that this was true, because he would like to see if the blockade would keep out the Stars and Stripes.

"But Mr. Chairman," he added, "if our flag has not been seen in these waters in the way of commerce for many years, at least let our eagles be seen there now, when they carry to Crete and to Greece the welcome message of our sympathy, and the substantial aid that America delights to give whenever there is distress and need."

The speech was warmly applauded and the resolution offered by Mr. Low was adopted with a shout. It was as follows:

Whereas, The present troubles in the island of Crete have resulted in burdening the little Kingdom of Greece with the care of many thousands of Cretan refugees; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York appoints a committee of twenty-five, with power to add to its number, to raise a Cretan relief fund, the proceeds of which shall be transmitted to Greece to be used exclusively for the benefit of Cretan refugees.

After the resolution had been adopted, many members of the Chamber of Commerce crowded around Mr. Low and congratulated him on having led the Chamber to come out boldly on a question that was usually handled with kid gloves.

President Alexander E. Orr, appointed the committee of twenty-five, including in his membership enough millionaires to raise a substantial relief fund among themselves. Following are the members:

Seth Low, John Crosby Brown, Levi P. Morton, Abram S. Hewitt, Andrew Carnegie, John Claflin, William E. Dodge, W. Bayard Cutting, Richard A. McCurdy, Morris K. Jesup, John S. Kennedy, James T. Woodward, James M. Connelley, James McCreery, D. O. Mills, J. Pierpont Morgan, William R. Grace, James A. Buelch, Vernon H. Brown, John D. Rockefeller, Mayor Wm. L. Strong, Oscar S. Straus, George Foster Peabody, John L. Ritter, Charles R. Flint.

President Woodward, of the Hanover National Bank, will serve as treasurer of the committee.

IRONERS' STRIKE GROWS. Seven Hundred and One Men and Girls Demand Shorter Hours—Employers Ready to Yield.

The Shirt Ironers' Union of New York and Jersey City, ordered a general strike yesterday for an advance of from 15 to 20 per cent in wages and a reduction in the hours of labor. About 350 were on strike previously, and yesterday 701 were out, including 300 girls.

The Shirt Ironers' Union is affiliated with the United Hebrew Trades, though its membership represents seven distinct nationalities.

Of the 701 who were on strike yesterday, 400 were Hebrews, 200 Italians, 100 poles, Hungarians, Englishmen, and one negro, the latter being the only negro in the union. A mass-meeting of the strikers was held in Liberty Hall, No. 230 East Houston street, in the afternoon.

The strikers gained their demands in three shops, and ten employers who wanted to settle reached the headquarters of the union yesterday afternoon, too late to sign an agreement, but will be on hand early to-day.

Nearly all the girls were on hand at the meeting, and listened to speeches from Abraham Shapiro, secretary of the United Hebrew Trades, and others. One of the girls said:

"We have been working from sixteen to eighteen hours every day, and could not stand it longer. Life is not worth living without enough time for ordinary sleep and rest."

The strikers want a working day of ten hours. Their wages range from \$6 to \$8 a week, each shop making its own prices, and the advances demanded would raise their wages about a dollar a week. They are paid on piece work.

The principal shops are Bachman, Robinson building, in Gouverneur street, thirty-two ironers; George Williams, No. 208 Bloeker street, forty-five; Mrs. Marks, No. 50 Prince street, forty; Commercial and Co-operative Laundry, No. 16 Walker street, forty; Fair Co-operative Laundry, No. 29 Willett street, thirty; Epstein, No. 178 Park Row, Davidson, No. 102 Attorney street, twenty; Green, No. 103 Madison street, twenty; Wamschinsky, No. 278 Madison street, twenty-five; Feinblatt, No. 238 Third street, eighteen; Weinblatt, No. 96 Conson street, twenty-five; Konitzky, No. 11 and 13 Cannon street, thirty; Barnett, Cherry and Montgomery streets, twenty; Stanerz, Lewis street, eighteen, and Tatarofsky, Jersey City Heights, twenty.

CANAL WALLS CRUMBLING.

Discovery Just Made Shows That the Plan to Deepen the Erie May Have to Be Abandoned.

North Tonawanda, April 1.—An important discovery was made here to-day in connection with the canal improvement contract covered by the famous \$9,000,000 appropriation. The contract calls for the deepening of the canals, but the walls are beginning to crumble already before any dredging has been done.

Work on the improvements on this section, which is about twenty-five miles long, has progressed smoothly, and it was planned to do the dredging as soon as navigation opened. However, the narrow strip of embankment separating the two streams was the first to show signs of weakness. On examination it was found that the other bank was also in a very shaky condition. It is feared the slides will slide if the base should be disturbed. To strengthen the banks even on the short section between Buffalo and North Tonawanda would require an enormous sum of money, and from present indications it is probable that the plan to deepen the Erie Canal will be abandoned.

State Engineer Adams will arrive here to-morrow to see if something cannot be done to prevent a total collapse of the banks where the improvement is now under way.

Carlisle's Niece Recites.
Chicago, April 1.—Miss Catherine Carlisle, a niece of ex-Secretary John C. Carlisle, and a former member of Mr. Daly's London company, gave a reading at the Virginia Hotel this evening before an audience of North Side fashionables. Miss Carlisle read at the houses of the Prices and Vanduitels at Newport last Summer.

War Ships Carry Away Pilots.
Charleston, S. C., April 1.—The monitors Terror and Amphitrite sailed for Hampton Roads to-day. The pilots were unable, in consequence of the high sea, to take the vessels after they had passed through the jetty.

Woman Gets a State Office.
Albany April 1.—Mrs. Martha Olney of Jamestown, has been appointed a Deputy State Factory Inspector, at a salary of \$1,200 per annum.

BISMARCK TO SEE HE IS TOO ILL TO EIGHTY-SECOND DAY.

CONGRATULATED

Thousands of Letters and Grams Received by the Old Statesman.

By James Cressman (Copyright, 1897, by W. H. Harburg. April 1.—Prince celebrated his eighty-second birthday. He spent the day in his

his two sons and daughter. He was crowded to the storm whirled about the windows of the sick. Thousands of letters and carried to the castle and ors called, but the against them.

The old man is feeling says there is no limbs and face are dis-

The Prince is very of events in Europe. He sees des trampled under foot and the empire he created strange associations.

The Emperor's friendly messengers, blind Bismarck to the fact his friends have been driven from that he is sinking into his grave, but he refuses to make any plaint.

Among the messages of collected by Bismarck was the Emperor.

New York Germans Celebrate.
New York Germans celebrated second anniversary of Prince's birth at a brilliant Kommandant Garden, given under the Deutsche Veteranen-Bund, which the great Chancellor, Major Charles Duppel presented, was crowded to the. The well-known German Ernst Encke, presented the best of the year United Germany.

The festival oration, L. Herzberger, Paul Kallie Roschach and the entertainment. The good cheer, and a number friends of Prince Bismarck admiration in addresses.



PRESENT

Of Paris Costumes White Room. Four is composed of Dress and Wraps that first light in New York. Many other Paris are with the general Dresses and Wrap mulative success this section of our proof that its made thoroughly up to



Dutch Rose Buses.
them are record-break varieties. 15c each; 2 dozen. Expressed by delivery system at pure New Evening Silks have been reduced about of them are perfect, missed from being shown to hurt. Most pronounced New Spring Dress Good collection from Paris in the Three of the season's high-class novelties just ad Women's Knit Underwear of Spring and Summer well complete. The large assortment low prices attract. Men's Imported Short bosom, \$1. Red Men's Bicycle Suits. The demand is Men's Spring Suits plaid chevrons, \$12, \$13. Just as good—much made-to-measure Suits. Boys' Clothing. Suits for frolicsome y Priced very low. Bicycles. Continental tinent \$37.50. Strictly Not a weak spot about then Baby Carriages, \$3 one hundred styles B. & N.

Everything You can think of in the way of style, fit and finish is embodied in our line of Overcoats for Spring, 1897.

Two Specials in Spring Overcoats.

A Covert Cloth Top Coat—Box shape—serge lined—satin sleeves—strapped seams—at the low price of

A Black Worsted Thibet Overcoat—pure silk lined throughout, to the edge—well tailored, a \$25 coat at

\$12. \$19.

Swell Hatters' \$5.00 Hats \$2.85 Regular \$3.50 Shoes at \$2.85

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HAS MANY FRIENDS. ve, Who Wrecked Two Financial Institutions in Manchester, Goes to State Prison. ester, N. H., April 1.—Dr. Moore on to the State Prison at Concord noon. His nephew, two Sheriffs er Wadsworth went up to the he doctor was not handcuffed. very well under the trying and of people gathered at in off. He declined to prison, who was an

In spite of his fallen fortune, Dr. Moore has many friends in Manchester, who believe that his crimes were largely the result of desperate methods resorted to to extricate his affairs from the burden of the panic of 1892, rather than deliberate planning to defraud, and more of sympathy than condemnation was heard on the streets to-night.

SHE CANNOT BE MRS. HART.
Court Denies This Woman's Claim to Be the Wealthy Millionaire's Wife.
Mrs. Anna Hart, of No. 450 West Forty-second street, appeared in the Harlem Police Court yesterday afternoon as co-plaintiff against her alleged common law husband, Edward H. Hart, whom she charges with abandonment.
Hart is a wealthy wholesale millinery dealer of No. 300 Broadway. He lives at the Hotel Marlborough. Mrs. Hart stated that she and Hart agreed to consider themselves man and wife six years ago. They lived together until last January, when she alleges that Hart deserted her.
Lawyer Abraham Levy, who appeared for Hart, raised the point that as the woman had been divorced her marriage was null and void.

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